

Equipment Basics

- Refrigerators should have
 - Separate, sealed refrigerator and freezer compartments with external doors
 - Separate temperature controls for refrigerator and freezer compartments
 - Enough room to store the year's largest inventory without crowding
- Small single-door combined refrigerator/freezer units (dormitory-style) may only be used for temporarily storing small quantities of refrigerated vaccines
- Dormitory-style combined refrigerator-freezer units should NOT be used for:
 - Permanent storage for any vaccines
 - Vaccines that must be kept frozen
- Monitor both refrigerator and freezer temperatures for 1 week to ensure correct temperatures prior to storing vaccines

Help the Refrigerator & Freezer Keep the Correct Temperatures

Put water bottles along the walls & in the vegetable bins in the refrigerator

Keep frozen packs and/or ice cube trays in the freezer



Thermometer Basics

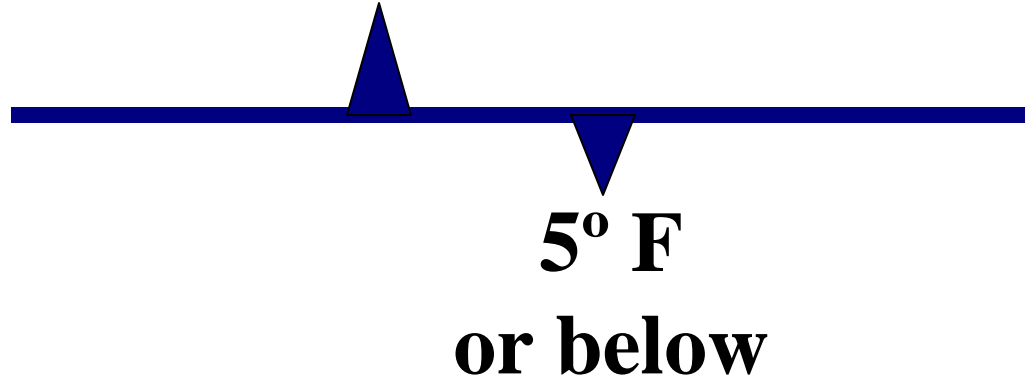
- Your thermometers (and any other monitoring equipment) should be:
 - Designed for refrigerators or freezers
 - Certified
 - In good working order
- Place thermometers in the center of freezer and refrigerator
- Consider using monitors and alarms
 - ◆ Graphing thermometer (Dickson)
 - ◆ Alarm system (Sensaphone)

Your Daily Responsibilities

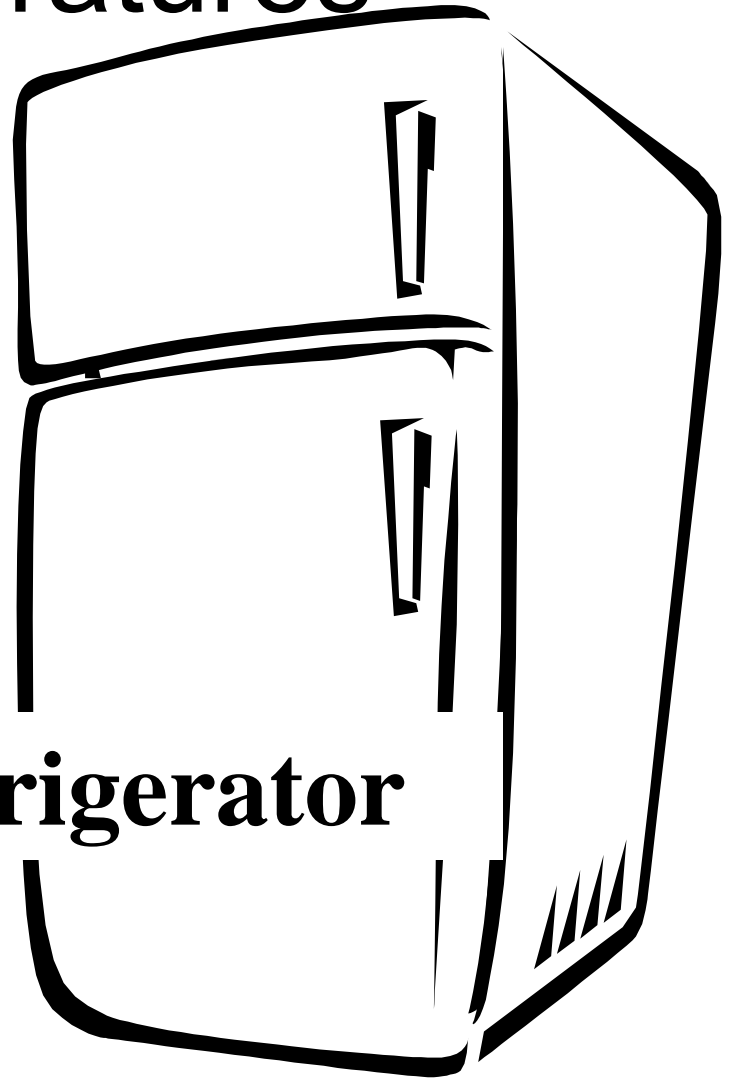
- Have knowledgeable, pro-active staff to monitor temperatures and vaccine storage
- Post a refrigerator and freezer temperature log
- Document temperatures in refrigerator and freezer twice a day
 - **Once in the a.m. when clinic opens**
 - **Once in the p.m. before clinic closes**
- Keep temperature logs for 3 years
- Check temperature reading before giving vaccine

Proper Temperatures

Aim for 0°F in the freezer



Aim for 40°F in the refrigerator



Vaccine Deliveries and Shipments

- Ensure that vaccines are delivered during office hours
- Store vaccines at the recommended temperatures IMMEDIATELY upon arrival
- Examine vaccine shipments:
 - Check package contents with packing slip
 - Check enclosed refrigerator & freezer temperature indicators
 - Check shipment date
 - Interval between shipment date and arrival at your office should be no more than 48 hours
- Varicella, zoster and MMRV should arrive with dry ice in the shipping container

Additional Considerations

- Inform staff whom to notify when vaccines arrive
 - This is very important for receptionists or front desk staff
 - This information should be included during new staff orientation
 - Periodic reminders never hurt!
- If you have any questions about whether any vaccines have been transported properly contact
 - The vaccine manufacturers (privately purchased vaccines)
 - The local health department (VFC vaccine)
- Store appropriately in the refrigerator or freezer
 - Separate/identify these vaccines from your current stock, i.e. in a marked paper bag

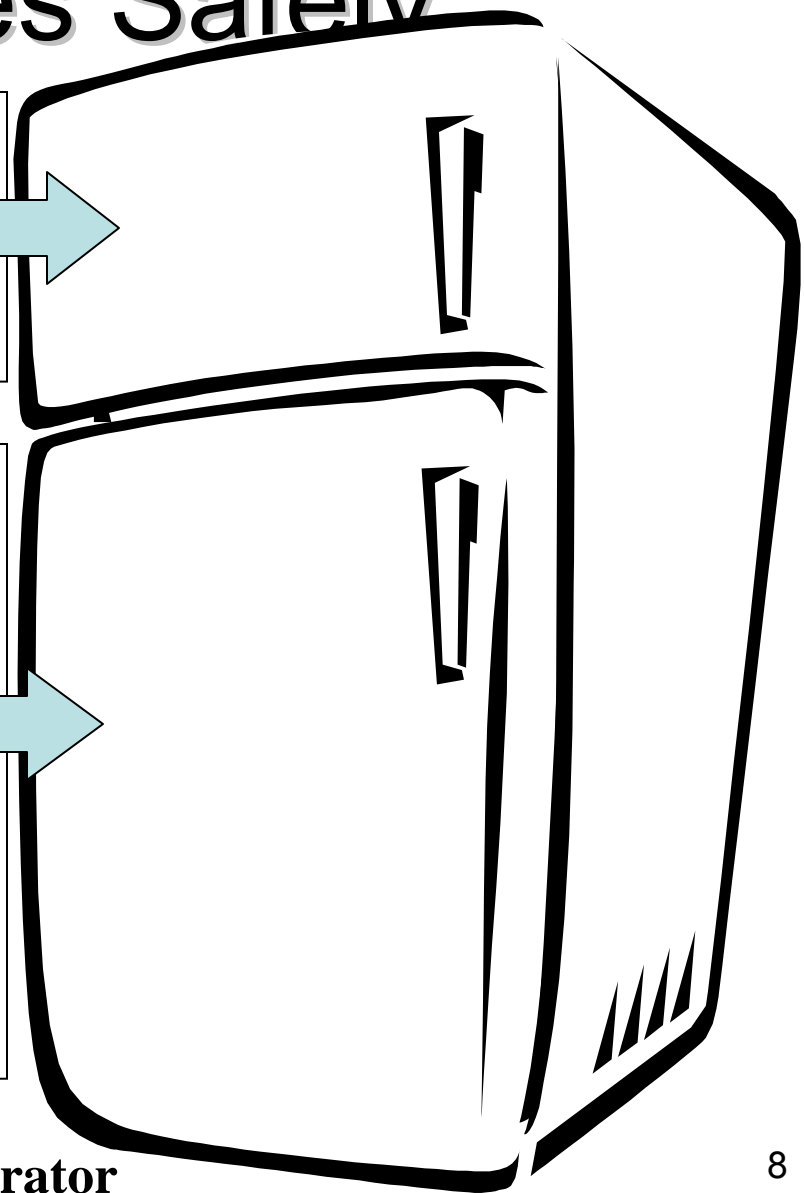
Storing Vaccines Safely

Store frozen vaccine at
5°F(-15°C) or lower

Varicella, Zoster, MMR* & MMRV

Store refrigerated vaccines between
35°F (2°C) and 46°F (8°C)
Do NOT Freeze

DTaP, Td, Tdap, IPV, Hib, Hep A,
Hep B, HPV4, MMR*, MCV4,
MPSV4, TIV, PCV7, PPSV23, RV
and LAIV



*MMR may be stored in the freezer or refrigerator

Storing Your Vaccine Inventory

